

The only recent success was the establishment of a colony of *Spargania luctuata* (D. & S.) during the 1960's and early 1970's, in the one remaining area of the woods that remains in a similar condition to when it was first constituted, namely that of the area known as Milton Hide. Encouraging signs have been the opening of the rides by the Forestry Commission and the clearance of some of the large tracts of Gorse that were becoming rampant. One cannot underestimate the negative effect of routine ride maintenance as it reduces floral diversity, upon which adult insects are dependent as well as pruning back severely sources of larval foodplants. A rotational system leaving wide ride margins would be less labour intensive and ecologically preferable. The clearing of many of the other areas together with the planting of young birch and other broadleaves has had beneficial results, with several species reoccurring after absences of many decades, species such as *Acrionicta alni* (Linn.) and *Furcula bicuspis* (Borkh.). If this trend is continued the long-term future of the woodland is not so bleak as one might expect.

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PYRRHOCORIS APTERUS L. (HEM.: PYRRHOCORIDAE) IN DORSET. — In July 1979 I was brought two specimens of *Pyrrhocris apterus* which had been taken at Kimmeridge on the Dorset coast. The only known permanent colony for this handsome black and red species is on Oar Stone Rock, a small island off the Devon coast, near Torquay, where it has been present for very many years. — S. C. S. BROWN, 158 Harewood Road, Bournemouth, Dorset.